



STATE OF MARYLAND

**DHMH**

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Board Of Physical Therapy Examiners*

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**January 16, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by the Chairperson,  
Margery F. Rodgers, PT.

Call to Order

**Board members present:**

Darren Burns, Esq., Consumer Member  
Jill Kuramoto, PT  
Shirley Leeper, PTA  
Donald Novak, PT  
Lois Rosedom-Boyd, Consumer Member  
Stephen Ryan, PT

**Also present:**

Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director  
Joy E. Aaron, Administrative Officer  
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel  
Patricia Miller, Board Secretary  
Patrick Rooney, Investigator  
Baltimore City Community College PTA Students  
John Miller, PTA, Baltimore City Community College Instructor  
Nadia Kaltrheiter,  
Lori Mizell, PT, APTA of Maryland

**Absent:**

Ernest Bures, Investigator/Compliance Officer

Welcome was extended to the visiting students who were here to receive licensure instructions and application packets and to observe the workings of the Board. Ms. Rodgers explained how the Board recognizes visitors who may wish to ask questions or make comments.

Baltimore City  
Comm. College

The minutes of the meeting held on December 5, 2006 were approved.

Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes  
January 16, 2006

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Board members will commence filling in their own expense reports rather than giving a mileage report each month. Ms. Miller held a short informational session. Samples will be mailed to each member.

Expense  
Reports

Because of the recent resignation of Paz Susan Cabanero-Johnson, PT, the Board requested Mrs. Tyminski solicit possible dates for a dinner to honor Ms. Johnson. A plaque will be ordered.

Paz Susan  
Johnson

Applicant Ayita Bhatti requested she be excused from taking Chemistry II because schools require she take Chemistry I prior to enrolling in Chem. II. The Board determined Ms. Bhatti needs to fulfill her general education requirements with a course in Chemistry II even if she has to take Chem. I.

Ayita Bhatti

Mr. Robert Duvall, PT, DPT outlined in a letter the experience he offered to foreign educated applicant, Marcia Machado so that she could fulfill her lack of clinical affiliation. She volunteered under him at Elite Performance & Physical Therapy for 144 hours. She has met her requirement. However, Mrs. Tyminski was requested to contact Mr. Duvall to ascertain what he allowed her to do.

Marcia  
Machado

Ms. Aaron updated the Board on the online renewal process. Progress has been excellent. There will be live testing by the end of January. The Board suggested a cut-off one week prior to the deadline to ensure that licenses will be printed and out prior to May 31. Board members and counsel gave suggestions for the wording of the notice to be sent out to licensees prior to renewal.

Online  
Renewals

Mrs. Tyminski reported on the Board-sponsored continuing education course to be held March 9. The flyers were ready to be mailed. All Board members are invited to attend. Attendance is free. Reservations are required. No-shows will be assessed the fee of \$89.

Continuing  
Education  
Course

Ms. Cabanero-Johnson provided the Board with information regarding the inquiry about the appropriateness of physical therapists performing finger sticks with the readings being reported back to physicians. CAPTE has reported that performing a blood draw is not part of the educational program.

Finger Sticks

Mrs. Tyminski requested that the Board consider dropping investigations for the Occupational Therapy Board and the Nursing Home Administrators Board. Currently, combined those boards pay 30% of the salary of one Investigator. With the increase in PT investigations and the need for more attention to Compliance of PT and PTA orders, the Board directed Mrs. Tyminski to write a letter to the two Boards informing them of the decision.

Investigations

A letter drafted for Ms. Rodgers' signature responding to the concerns about the educational requirements for this foreign educated applicant was reviewed, approved and signed by Ms. Rodgers.

Niranjan Sura

The Board reviewed Traci Levine's e-mail inquiry regarding PTA scope of practice issues. Ms. Leeper was requested to draft a response for Ms. Rodgers' review.

PTA Scope of  
Practice

David Boska, PT inquired regarding his company's Oasis form and the

Medications

company requirement that physical therapists in the homecare setting analyze medication utilization. The Board directed Mrs. Tyminski to respond that a physical therapist may list medications but not analyze their use. Further, the Board felt physical therapists should not be put in the position of practicing outside their scope.

Ms. A. Shannahan of Shoreline Health inquired via e-mail as to whether Physical therapists may teach oxygen safety to home health patients. The Board directed a response be sent to her advising that usually the company that provides the oxygen to the patient would teach the patient how to use the equipment safely. Although the PT could probably instruct the patient in the safe use of oxygen, that is not specifically within the practice of physical therapy. She will be advised that she would be placing a certain degree of liability on the physical therapists if they were routinely asked to provide this instruction. She will be offered a copy of the practice act for the fee of \$20.

Oxygen Safety

An inquiry from Karen Frank, PT regarding the advisability of her presenting her experiences using anabolic steroids at a seminar without risk to her license. The Board advises that if she used the steroids under prescription of a physician, there would be no problem. However, if she used steroids without prescription, she was doing so illegally with potential risk to her PT license.

Anabolic  
Steroids

Further information from Alex Sekrin, PT regarding his proposed screening of high school athletes was reviewed. He will be advised that in the situation he has described, he will need to make up a patient/client chart and document the assessment and plan.

Screening High  
School  
Athletes

Ms. Tyminski reminded the Board members that the legislative session has begun. She requested the availability of Board members on short notice. Mr. Burns, Ms. Rodgers, and Ms. Leeper indicated they could be called. Ms. Kuramoto can be available on Fridays. Ms. Tyminski also said that the Athletic Trainers were looking for a Board to take them and expected to put in legislation this year.

Legislative  
Session

Cultural Competency will be a big issue in the legislature again this year and Mrs. Tyminski passed out copies of the report on Cultural Competency that was the result of the Task Force between the Minority Counsel and the Health Occupation Boards. Mrs. Tyminski asked the Board if they could consider cultural competency courses as acceptable continuing education. The Board agreed that any such courses related to the practice of physical therapy could be accepted.

Cultural  
Competency

The Board reviewed information presented by APTA National on bills that could impact the practice of physical therapy in other states.

Legislation

The Continuing Education Committee requested the Board to review 3 courses. 1) "An Insider's Perspective on Autism and Asperger's Syndrome" was discussed at length. Mr. Burns pointed out that the course did outline that physical therapists will learn how and why to make modifications in the environment. 6 members approved the course, 1 opposed it. 2) "Clinical Insights into Foot Biomechanics and Orthotic Therapy" was

Continuing Ed

approved although the submission was not timely. 3) A letter of appeal from Deborah Dorcas, PT regarding the infant massage course, "Loving Touch" was reviewed. Ms. Leeper was requested to obtain more information.

Ms. Leeper reported on the APTA Government Affairs Meeting and the fact that the Athletic Trainers are seeking licensure once again but no bill has surfaced for review.

APTA Govt.  
Affairs


Income statement reports were reviewed as were the Optometry Board Newsletter, the FSBPT budget and Governor O'Malley's selection of John Colmers as DHMH Secretary.

Informational

The Board ended its Open Session at 3:00 p.m. to enter Closed Session to discuss application and medical review issues, and then into Executive Session to discuss disciplinary matters. The Board meeting ended at 5:00 p.m.

Closed Session

Respectfully submitted,



Date Approved:

Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director



Margery F. Rodgers, PT,  
Board Chairperson